We claim:

1. A system for diagnostic testing comprising:

a carrier comprising a first well and a second well; and

a specimen-handling tool disposed about at least a portion of the first well or the second well.

2. The system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising at least one plug disposed in at least one well.

3. The system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising an overlying member positioned adjacent to the carrier so that the overlying member is disposed over at least a portion of one of the first and/or second wells.

4. The system as claimed in claim 3 further comprising a plug disposed in at least one of the wells, the plug being attached to the overlying member so that, when the overlying member is removed from the carrier, the plug is removed from the well.

5. The system as claimed in claim 1, the specimen-handling tool comprising a pair of cooperating arms.

6. The system as claimed in claim 5, each arm of the specimen handling tool comprising a tip portion and a rear portion, the arms being joined to each other at their rear portions to form a joined end.

7. The system as claimed in claim 6, at least one tip portion being formed as a flat surface.

8. The system as claimed in claim 6, at least one tip portion being formed as a spike.

9. The system as claimed in claim 6, the joined end being formed to include a narrow projection.

10. The system as claimed in claim 5, each arm further comprising a rearward arcuate portion.

11. The system as claimed in claim 5, each arm further comprising a forward arcuate portion.

12. The system as claimed in claim 10, each arm further comprising a forward arcuate portion and an intermediate arcuate portion, the intermediate arcuate portion being disposed between the rearward arcuate portion and the forward arcuate portion.

13. The system as claimed in claim 12, the arcuate portions being configured so that the area disposed between the pair of arms is substantially hourglass in shape.

14. The system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising indicia disposed on the carrier.

15. The system as claimed in claim 1, at least one of the wells having a frustoconical configuration.

16. The system as claimed in claim 1, the carrier being formed from polycarbonate.

17. A system for testing comprising:

a carrier comprising at least one well; and

means for handling a specimen, such means disposed about at least a portion of the well.

18. The system as claimed in claim 17, the means for handling a specimen comprising a specimen-handling tool.

19. The system as claimed in claim 18, the specimen-handling tool comprising a pair of cooperating arms, each arm of the specimen-handling tool comprising a tip portion and a rear portion, the arms being joined to each other at their rear portions.

20. The system as claimed in claim 19, the specimen-handling tool further comprising a rearward arcuate portion, a forward arcuate portion, and an intermediate arcuate portion disposed between the rearward arcuate portion and the forward arcuate portion, the arcuate portions being configured so that the area disposed between the pair of arms is approximately hour-glass in shape.

21. The system as claimed in claim 17, further comprising at least one plug disposed in at least one of the first and/or second wells.

22. The system as claimed in claim 17, further comprising an overlying member positioned adjacent to the carrier so that the overlying member is disposed over at least a portion of one of the first and/or second wells.

23. The system as claimed in claim 17 further comprising a plug disposed in at least one of the wells, the plug being attached to the overlying member so that, when the overlying member is removed from the carrier, the plug is removed from the well.

24. The system as claimed in claim 17 further comprising indicia disposed on the carrier.

25. The system as claimed in claim 17, the carrier being substantially rectangular in shape.

26. The system as claimed in claim 17, the carrier being formed from polycarbonate.

27. The system as claimed in claim 17, the well having a frustoconical configuration.

28. The system as claimed in claim 17, the carrier comprising at least two wells.

29. A diagnostic system comprising:

a carrier comprising a first well, a second well, and a cavity; and

a specimen-handling tool adapted to manipulate a specimen, the specimen-handling tool being adapted to fit within the cavity of the carrier so that the specimen-handling tool is disposed about at least a portion of one of the first and/or second wells.

30. The diagnostic system as claimed in claim 29, further comprising at least one plug disposed one of the first and/or second wells.

31. The diagnostic system as claimed in claim 29, further comprising an overlying member positioned adjacent to the carrier so that the overlying member is disposed over at least a portion of one of the first and/or second wells.

32. The system as claimed in claim 31 further comprising a plug disposed in at least one of the wells, the plug being attached to the overlying member so that, when the overlying member is removed from the carrier, the plug is removed from the well.

33. The diagnostic system as claimed in claim 31, the overlying member being disposed over at least a portion of the cavity.

34. The diagnostic system as claimed in claim 29 further comprising indicia disposed on the carrier.

35. The diagnostic system as claimed in claim 29, the carrier being substantially rectangular in shape.

36. The diagnostic system as claimed in claim 29, the specimen-handling tool comprising a pair of cooperating arms.

37. The diagnostic system as claimed in claim 36, each arm of the specimen handling tool comprising a tip portion and a rear portion, the arms being joined to each other at their rear portions to form a joined end.

38. The system as claimed in claim 37, the specimen-handling tool further comprising a rearward arcuate portion, a forward arcuate portion, and an intermediate arcuate portion disposed between the rearward arcuate portion and the forward arcuate portion, the arcuate portions being configured so that the area disposed between the pair of arms is approximately hour-glass in shape.

39. The diagnostic system as claimed in claim 29, the carrier being formed from polycarbonate.

40. The diagnostic system as claimed in claim 25, at least one of the wells having a frustoconical configuration.

41. A system for diagnostic testing comprising:

a carrier comprising at least one well; and

a specimen-handling tool disposed about at least a portion of the well.

42. The system as claimed in claim 41, the carrier comprising a first well and a second well.

43. The system as claimed in claim 41, further comprising at least one plug disposed in the well.

44. The system as claimed in claim 41, further comprising an overlying member positioned adjacent to the carrier so that the overlying member is disposed over at least a portion of one of the first and/or second wells.

45. The system as claimed in claim 44, the overlying member being disposed over at least a portion of the cavity.

46. The system as claimed in claim 44 further comprising a plug disposed in at least one of the wells, the plug being attached to the overlying member so that, when the overlying member is removed from the carrier, the plug is removed from the well.

47. The system as claimed in claim 41 further comprising indicia disposed on the carrier.

48. The system as claimed in claim 41, the carrier being substantially rectangular in shape.

49. The system as claimed in claim 41, further comprising at least one plug disposed in at least one well.

50. The system as claimed in claim 41, the specimen-handling tool comprising a pair of cooperating arms.

51. The system as claimed in claim 50, each arm of the specimen handling tool comprising a tip portion and a rear portion, the arms being joined to each other at their rear portions to form a joined end.

52. The system as claimed in claim 50, the specimen-handling tool further comprising a rearward arcuate portion, a forward arcuate portion, and an intermediate arcuate portion disposed between the rearward arcuate portion and the forward arcuate portion, the arcuate portions being configured so that the area disposed between the pair of arms is approximately hour-glass in shape.

53. The system as claimed in claim 41, the carrier being formed from polycarbonate.

54. The system as claimed in claim 41, at least one of the wells having a frustoconical configuration.

55. A carrier comprising:

at least one well; and

a cavity adapted to retain a specimen-handling tool so that the specimen-handling tool is disposed about at least a portion of the well.

56. The carrier as claimed in claim 55 comprising a first well and a second well.

57. The carrier as claimed in claim 55 further comprising a plug disposed in the well.

58. The carrier as claimed in claim 55 further comprising an overlying member positioned adjacent to the carrier so that the overlying member is disposed over at least a portion of the well.

59. The carrier as claimed in claim 58, the overlying member being disposed over at least a portion of the cavity.

60. The carrier as claimed in claim 55 further comprising indicia disposed on the carrier.

61. The carrier as claimed in claim 55, the carrier being substantially rectangular in shape.

62. The carrier as claimed in claim 55, the well having a frustoconical configuration.

63. A specimen handling tool comprising:

a pair of cooperating arms, each arm comprising

a tip portion,

a rear portion, the arms being joined to each other at their rear portions to form a joined end,

a rearward arcuate portion,

a forward arcuate portion, and

an intermediate arcuate portion disposed between the rearward arcuate portion and the forward arcuate portion, the arcuate portions being configured so that the area disposed between the pair of arms is approximately hour-glass in shape, at least one tip portion comprising a flat surface.

64. The specimen-handling tool as claimed in claim 63, at least one tip portion comprising a fork.

65. The specimen-handling tool as claimed in claim 63, the specimen-handling tool being formed from polycarbonate.

66. The specimen-handling tool as claimed in claim 63, the joined end of the specimen-handling tool being configured as a projection.